

Date Mailed  
April 1, 1999

BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of the Wisconsin Power and Light Company, as an  
Electric, Water and Natural Gas Public Utility, to Change  
Electric, Water and Natural Gas Rates

6680-UR-110

**NOTICE OF HEARING:  
YEAR 2000 COMPUTER COSTS**

<b>Direct Testimony Due:</b>	<b>April 20, 1999 - 4:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Rebuttal Testimony Due:</b>	<b>May 10, 1999 - 4:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	<b>May 12, 1999 – 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Hearing Location:</b>	<b>Public Service Commission, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, WI (Amnicon Falls Hearing Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)</b>

On November 13, 1998, Wisconsin Power and Light Company (WP&L) filed an application with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) under Wis. Stat. §§ 196.03, 196.20, and 196.37, for authority for a temporary surcharge to its Wisconsin retail electric, natural gas, and water rates in order to recover costs associated with the Year 2000 computer problem.

The application states in part:

Applicant's costs associated with the Year 2000 problem, including costs for inventory, assessment and testing, remediation, base contingency planning, emergency preparedness and awareness and education, are increasing, are outside the control of the Applicant and are unusual and infrequently occurring in nature.

WP&L is requesting temporary surcharges to rates of \$12,345,000 for retail electric service, \$3,603,000 for natural gas service, \$144,000 for Beloit water service, and \$28,000 for Ripon water service. WP&L's application requested that surcharges to recover the above amounts be implemented for an eighteen-month period beginning January 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000. During the prehearing conference, WP&L requested that any surcharges authorized by the Commission be implemented for a one-year period beginning by June 30, 1999, and ending June 30, 2000.

Pursuant to Order Point 11 of the Commission's November 5, 1997, order in docket 6680-UM-100 WP&L may request that its retail rates be reopened during the four-year rate freeze period for single events that are not merger related, and have a revenue requirement impact of \$4.5 million or more.

A prehearing conference was held on January 19, 1999. A list of the issues was developed and the schedule for prefiling testimony and exhibits was established. The issue list is available from the Commission upon request. Full parties are bound by the issues adopted at the prehearing conference and by the schedule shown in this notice.

The utility is responsible for giving notice to its customers of the filing of its application with the Commission and, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.73, for producing proof of notice at the hearing.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a hearing will be held beginning on May 12, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. in the Amnicon Falls Hearing Room at the Public Service Commission Building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin, and continuing at times to be set by the presiding Hearing Examiner. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the Whitney Way first floor (lobby) entrance. Parking for people with disabilities is available on the south side of the building. Any person with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Persons who desire to actively participate as full parties must request full party status in writing. Full party status requests should be addressed to Jeffry Patzke, Hearing Examiner, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, Examining Division, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854.

Full parties shall file an **original and 20 copies** of any testimony and exhibits with the Commission and shall provide a complete copy to the other full parties. A filing with the Commission may be made by facsimile transmission one working day prior to a deadline to allow time for copying but cannot exceed 20 pages. The cover sheet must state "Official Filing" and the number of pages.

This is a Class 1 proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a).

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to get this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director at (608) 267-0912.

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Other questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Neil Michek at (608) 267-1209.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

By the Commission:

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Lynda L. Dorr  
Secretary to the Commission

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